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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Toshihisa NAKANO et al.

Serial No. 10/014,912

Filed December 14, 2001

KEY MANAGEMENT DEVICE/METHOD/
PROGRAM, RECORDING MEDIUM,
REPRODUCING DEVICE/METHOD,
RECORDING DEVICE, AND COMPUTER-
READABLE, SECOND RECORDING
MEDIUM STORING THE KEY
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR
COPYRIGHT PROTECTION

Confirmation No. 4213

Docket No. 2001_1837A

Group Art Unit 2615

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of [X] the reference listed on attached form PTO-1449. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 and each U.S. patent application listed below is enclosed.

1a. [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

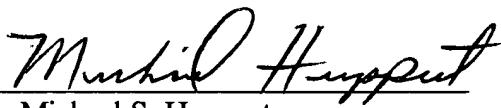
and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

- 1b. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted
after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action
or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application,
and thus:
(1) the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**
(2) the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.
- 1c. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:
after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which
otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and
thus:
the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and
the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.
2. It is hereby certified
- a. that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement
was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart
foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement,
or
 - b. that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was
cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign
application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after
making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c)
more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.
3. Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or
abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.
4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is
made to:

- a. a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
 - b. a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
 - c. the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at pages 2-3,
 - d. the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
 - e. the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
5. A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Toshihisa NAKANO et al.

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February 11, 2002

FORM PTO 1449 (*modified*)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(*Use several sheets if necessary*)

Date Submitted to PTO: February 11, 2002

ATTY DOCKET NO.
2001_1837ASERIAL NO.
10/014,912APPLICANT
Toshihisa NAKANO et al.FILING DATE
December 14, 2001GROUP
2615

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIALS <i>OPE</i>		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA						
<i>FEB 11 2002</i> <i>PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE</i>	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AJ	11-187013	7/1999	JP			Abstr.
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (*Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.*)

	AO	
	AP	
	AQ	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED